

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace the originally filed claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 10 (cancelled).

Claim 11 (new): An apparatus which may be used for controlling the dispensing of a pressurized fluid, wherein:

- a) said apparatus comprises:
 - 1) a body located about a first axis comprising an internal passage for said fluid, wherein said passage extends between an inlet orifice and an outlet orifice;
 - 2) a fastening base located about said first axis, wherein:
 - (a) said base is threaded at its external periphery; and
 - (b) said base is substantially in coaxial connection with said inlet orifice;
 - 3) an outlet connector located about a second axis, wherein said outlet connector is substantially in connection with said outlet orifice;
 - 4) a manometer means located about a third axis, wherein said manometer means comprises a pressure take-off substantially connected to said internal passage;
 - 5) a tightening grip comprising a tightening grip base, wherein said tightening grip is substantially located between said manometer and said fastening base; and
 - 6) a lever located about a fourth axis, wherein
 - (a) said lever pivots around a fifth axis which is substantially perpendicular to said first axis; and
 - (b) said lever cooperates with at least one valve means, located on said internal passage, so as to regulate fluid movement between said inlet orifice and said outlet orifice; and
- b) the distance between said tightening grip base and said third axis of said manometer is between about 27 mm and about 35 mm;
- c) the distance between said tightening grip base and said second axis of said outlet connector is between about 60 mm and about 75 mm; and

- d) the distance between said base of said tightening grip base and said fifth axis of said lever is between about 50 mm and about 110 mm.

Claim 12 (new): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said pressurized fluid comprises a gas.

Claim 13 (new): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the distance between said tightening grip base and the top of said body is between about 80 mm and 120 mm.

Claim 14 (new): The apparatus of claim 13, wherein:

- a) said distance between said tightening grip base and said third axis is about 30 mm;
- b) said distance between said tightening grip base and said second axis is about 65 mm;
- c) said distance between said tightening grip base and said fifth axis is about 95 mm; and
- d) said distance between said tightening grip base and said top of said body is about 105 mm.

Claim 15 (new): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said first axis and said second axis are substantially perpendicular.

Claim 16 (new): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the angle between the plane created by said first axis and said third axis, and the plane created by said first axis and said fourth axis, is between about 75° and about 105°.

Claim 17 (new): The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said angle is about 90°.

Claim 18 (new): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the angle between the plane created by said first axis and said third axis; and the plane created by said first axis and said second axis, is less than about 45°.

Claim 19 (new): The apparatus of claim 18, wherein said angle is about 30°.

Claim 20 (new): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said cooperation between said lever and said valve means comprises a movable rod acting on said valve means.

Claim 21 (new): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said lever pivots between:

- a) at least one resting position wherein said valve means prevents an exiting of said fluid through said connector; and
- b) an active position wherein said valve means allows said fluid to circulate through said internal passage and exit through said connector.

Claim 22 (new): The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said valve means is normally maintained in a closed position, when said lever is in said resting position, by a spring means.

Claim 23 (new): An apparatus which may be used for controlling the dispensing of a pressurized fluid, wherein:

- a) said apparatus comprises:
 - 1) a body located about a first axis comprising an internal passage for said fluid, wherein said passage extends between an inlet orifice and an outlet orifice;
 - 2) a fastening base located about said first axis, wherein:
 - (a) said base is threaded at its external periphery; and
 - (b) said base is substantially in coaxial connection with said inlet orifice;
 - 3) an outlet connector located about a second axis, wherein said outlet connector is substantially in connection with said outlet orifice and wherein said first axis and said second axis are substantially perpendicular;
 - 4) a manometer means located about a third axis, wherein said manometer means comprises a pressure take-off substantially connected to said internal passage;
 - 5) a tightening grip comprising a tightening grip base, wherein said tightening grip is substantially located between said manometer and said fastening base; and
 - 6) a lever located about a fourth axis, wherein
 - (a) said lever pivots around a fifth axis which is substantially perpendicular to said first axis and wherein said lever also pivots between:
 - (1) at least one resting position wherein said valve means prevents an exiting of said fluid through said connector; and

- (2) an active position wherein said valve means allows said fluid to circulate through said internal passage and exit through said connector; and
 - (b) said lever cooperates with at least one valve means, located on said internal passage, so as to regulate fluid movement between said inlet orifice and said outlet orifice, wherein said cooperation between said lever and said valve means comprises a movable rod acting on said valve means; and
- b) the distance between said tightening grip base and said third axis of said manometer is about 30;
- c) the distance between said tightening grip base and said second axis of said outlet connector is about 65 mm;
- d) the distance between said base of said tightening grip base and said fifth axis of said lever is about 95 mm;
- e) the distance between said tightening grip base and the top of said body is between about 80 mm and 120 mm;
- f) the angle between the plane created by said first axis and said third axis, and the plane created by said first axis and said fourth axis, is between about 75° and about 105°; and
- g) the angle between the plane created by said first axis and said third axis; and the plane created by said first axis and said second axis, is less than about 45°.

Claim 24 (new): An apparatus which may be used to contain a pressurized gas, wherein:

- a) said apparatus comprises a tap, wherein said tap comprises:
 - 1) a body located about a first axis comprising an internal passage for said fluid, wherein said passage extends between an inlet orifice and an outlet orifice;
 - 2) a fastening base located about said first axis, wherein:
 - (a) said base is threaded at its external periphery; and
 - (b) said base is substantially in coaxial connection with said inlet orifice;
 - 3) an outlet connector located about a second axis, wherein said outlet connector is substantially in connection with said outlet orifice;

- 3) an outlet connector located about a second axis, wherein said outlet connector is substantially in connection with said outlet orifice;
- 4) a manometer means located about a third axis, wherein said manometer means comprises a pressure take-off substantially in connection with said internal passage;
- 5) a tightening grip comprising a tightening grip base, wherein said tightening grip is substantially located between said manometer and said fastening base;
- 6) a lever located about a fourth axis, wherein
 - (a) said lever pivots around a fifth axis which is substantially perpendicular to said first axis;
 - (b) said lever cooperates with at least one valve means, located on said internal passage, so as to regulate fluid movement between said inlet orifice and said outlet orifice;and
- 7) a protective covering surrounding at least part of said tap; and
- b) the distance between said tightening grip base and said third axis of said manometer is between about 27 mm and about 35 mm;
- c) the distance between said tightening grip base and said second axis of said outlet connector is between about 60 mm and about 75 mm;
- d) the distance between said base of said tightening grip base and said fifth axis of said lever is between about 50 mm and about 110 mm; and
- e) said tap is substantially covered with a protective covering.